



Mid & West Wales
Person Centred Planning Network
23 May 2011
The Showground - Carmarthen

Who was there?

Jan Kench – Eich Dewis Chi
Jane Dodgeson - Parent & CAB volunteer
Samantha Evans - Cymryd Rhan
Jan Jones - Education & Children's Services Carmarthen C. C.
Sharon Evans - Education & Children's Services Carmarthen C. C.
Steph Harnett - Life Options
Luke Conlon - Community Choice & Inclusion (chair)
Chris Dodds - Cartrefi Cymru (minutes)

Who sent their apologies?

Andrew Michael – Neath Port Talbot CBC

What are we pleased /proud about since last meeting?

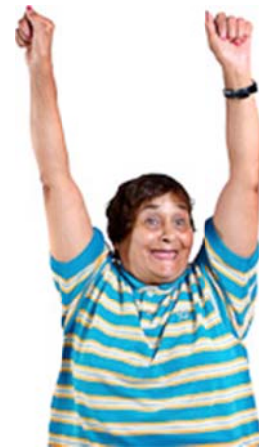
Jan K - Has successfully obtained 3 years funding for advocacy services in Ceridigion for Learning Disabilities.

Jane- Helping a friend in Yeovil set up a group home. Particularly pleased to report that she used a one page profile to help her son compile his C.V. this has led to him getting a job at a local caravan park.

Sam- Had a positive conference run with service users on skill sharing and workshops on talents.

Jan J – Involved in a WAG funded project on Person Centred alternatives to statements for people up to 25 years old. Pleased to report increased involvement of some schools in PCP; with some using one page profiles.

Sharon- Involved in same project as Jan Jones. Pleased at parents positive responses and that she is enjoying working hands on with families and is seeing better outcomes.



Luke- Involved in 2 bread making clubs (one for learning disabilities, one mental health) in Pembrokeshire, with the long term aim to set up a community (possibly a micro) bakery. He is pleased to see the positive impact for people meeting & working together.

Steph - Pleased to have funding for another year for 16-25 Transition work. This is tempered by the funding calendar not matching how she works with people.

Chris- Pleased to note an improvement in service user involvement in house meetings, meetings being adapted to suit and an acknowledgement of their contributions.

Minutes of last meeting (Sept 2010)

Everyone agreed that the minutes were correct.

Updates:-

- iPlanIt- Jane interested. But it is expensive £4000. She has asked Sam if Cymryd Rhan who use the package, could help.
- Discussion on how iPlanit works : links with outcomes, PCP & a management tool.
- Sam has offered to do a presentation on this at the All Wales PCP meeting on 14th July if interest is there?
- Discussion on the relative merits of People & Places , Special Friends as well as Facebook.
- Timebanking- Chris talked about joint work between Cartrefi Cymru & Cymryd Rhan on an initiative in Llandrindod, which is in its early stages but has had some local authority and other community interest.



News from your Area

- Discussion on the difference between the idea of PCP compared with the sometimes less good reality in practice.
- It was thought there is a need for a strategy / network to bring ideas together by those in Ceridigion and some asked



whether there was a conflict between funding & who is paid to do the work. It was argued that this is where independent advocacy helps.

- There has been a report from The University of Glamorgan into PCP. It concluded there are good things happening, but that more work needs to be done particularly in everyday things.
- Person Centred Active Support (such as Cartrefi Cymru are rolling out) was cited as a possible way forward with this, as long as it doesn't become too rigid thereby reducing community participation opportunities.
- Jan & Sharon said that they are working with 20 young people on how to reduce bureaucracy for simplified outcomes. They said the key is good communication. Funding for this project ends but they have been assured that goals in place will continue to be pursued. A report will be produced autumn this year.
- Luke drew people's attention to Trinity Fields in Caerphilly Transition into employment project and the recent WAG paper *Sustainable Social Services for Wales – A Framework for Action*, which recognised the need for focus on transition.
- Luke is developing a course for parent/ carers on PCP based on a Lynne Elwell In Control course. Luke has done 4 sessions at Portfield School Pembrokeshire. He is hoping to link this to the Open College Network.
- Lynne is willing to share lesson plans Luke will make link to workbook available. Engaging the family as 'keyworker' is important.
- There was a discussion on the issue of often seeing the same people when it came to PCP and interaction with social care services generally, as it was felt a lot of people felt disempowered.
- Steph said that active listening was the key to helping people work with each other.

Developing the network to include Older People groups and others

- The Lottery (Advantage) has recently funded groups for 3-5 years e.g. Tenovus, Age Concern, Shelter, All Wales Alzheimer Society. It is thought that the latter group are involved in PCP approaches to Carers and Support work.
- Jan K will find out who got the monies from this allocation.
- It was felt that PCP needs to be adapted to suit different bodies/ needs.
- Steph told the group about how she was worried about one occasion when after training people in Essential Lifestyle Plans, they said they saw potential in them for compiling Living Wills.



Wales Alliance for Citizen Directed Support www.wacds.org.uk



- Luke outlined the function of WACDS; of which he is co- chair. There is an 18 member council that includes equal representation from people who use services, parent/carers, service providers etc.
- He said it was similar to Personalisation in the rest of the UK. Someone is supported to make a (PC) plan- this given to the local authority who through their resource allocation system decide on how much someone is entitled to.
- The person can then chose to; Have the money, or have the local authority spend on a service provider chosen by the individual or allow the local authority to decide on the support provider.
- There is a need to find ways of involving people outside of services
- Sam reported that she took part in a Citizen Directed Support interview by service users to choose their service in Flintshire. There was no one from the local authority in the interview. The consensus is that local

authorities are becoming increasingly engaged and others will eventually join them.

- Luke; - Approximately only 4-5% of people entitled to community Care receive direct payments.
- It was felt that take up often depends on the individual social worker's knowledge/ opinion. Is WACDS a way of getting the importance of PCP to local authorities. Learning Disability is particularly under represented.
- Steph said using Section 33 is a good way to fight for direct payments.
- WACDS is open to all. Luke summed up its remit as to cooperate, participate and confront difficult issues. The key is PCP. Date of next open forum meeting 4th July 2011

How can we support each other?

- See above re information sharing.
- At the next meeting people can share one page profiles.
- Learning Disability Wales to be asked to remind people about their forum. Jane said an email rather than a web based forum would be preferable.
- Luke will ask Andrew Michael to outline his project.



Date of Next Meeting

Steffan Day Centre Lampeter 12 September. (*to be confirmed* Jan K to ask Darren Philips.)

